



# WORD

*"3For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, 4that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, 5and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve.*

*1 CORINTHIANS 15:3-5*

*(Read also 1 CORINTHIANS 15:6-8, 12-19.)*

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Christ's death did not end at the cross or even in the tomb. When all seemed lost, God turned an apparent defeat into a humbling and glorious victory. This victory is woven throughout the Scriptures and is where we stand as Christians. Without the resurrection, there would be no gospel, and everything we believe in would be untrue. Today, we will look at what Christ's resurrection means for us and how we can share the good news of His triumph over sin and death.

## 1. BECAUSE JESUS RESURRECTED, WE ARE NO LONGER DEAD IN OUR SINS.

*And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.*

*1 CORINTHIANS 15:17*

*(Read also ROMANS 6:8.)*

Not only did Jesus triumph over death when He overcame the grave, but He also overcame the influence of sin in our lives. Believers will no longer be punished for their sins as a result of His atoning work on the cross and through their confidence in what He had accomplished. We also possess the grace to reject sin and maintain a proper relationship with God. How has this reality aided you when you've been tempted or confused? How should we offer ourselves to God, according to Romans 6:13?

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## 2. BECAUSE JESUS RESURRECTED, WE ARE NO LONGER HOPELESS.

*"18 Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. 19 If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied.*

1 CORINTHIANS 15:18-19

We have hope for the future because of what Jesus did on the cross. Our faith is not in vain. There is more to this life than the challenges we face. Knowing that we have hope in Christ gives us hope ahead. This hope is not just for the future. Even as we suffer and die, our hope is rooted in the truth that we are risen again in Christ and are with Him forever. This is the blessed hope of believers. How does the hope of our resurrection change our perspective of the trials and hardships that we face today? What does 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 say about the hope we have in Christ?

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## 3. BECAUSE JESUS RESURRECTED, WE ARE NOT FALSE WITNESSES.

*14 And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. 15 We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised.*

1 CORINTHIANS 15:14-15

The Resurrection of Christ is the cornerstone of the Gospel. It is an affirmation of Jesus' divinity and mission. And it is not just a story; it is a historical fact that was witnessed by over 500 people (1 Corinthians 15:6). Knowledge of this truth not only proves the basis of our beliefs. It also gives us the confidence to reach out and witness God's love and sacrifice. How does knowing that you are the greatest bearer of truth affect your confidence in preaching the gospel?

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# APPLICATION

- Take time to reflect on what it took to make us alive in Christ. How can you help others see the grace and righteousness that only come from God?
- How has God given you hope? Share this with someone who is struggling to find hope at this time.
- Think of someone who needs to hear the message of Christ's sacrifice. Ask God for an opportunity to share it with that person this week.

# PRAYER

- Thank God that sin and death have no hold on you. Praise Him for His grace that abounds in your life.
- Surrender your every fear and worry to God. Pray that He will give you the strength to hold on to the hope that you have in Him, no matter the circumstance.
- Praise God for your salvation in Christ. Seek wisdom, grace, and boldness as you testify of the hope and victory you have in Him.



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